

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

13 (Currently Amended). An Apparatus for capturing images [under ultra-low illumination with high dynamic range] comprising:

a pixel of an imager;

a column feedback circuit that continuously monitors noise at said pixel;

a soft-resetting transistor coupled to said feedback circuit.

Claims 14-25: Cancelled.

26 (New). The apparatus of claim 13 wherein said column feedback circuit is outside said pixel.

27(New). The apparatus of claim 13 wherein said soft-reset transistor is a N-MOS transistor.

28(New). The apparatus of claim 13 wherein said pixel of an imager is a CMOS imager.

29(New). The apparatus of claim 13 wherein said column feedback circuit comprises an operational amplifier.

30(New). The apparatus of claim 13 further including a charge sensing transistor coupled to said pixel for measuring noise at said pixel and providing a signal to said column feedback circuit.